for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) either as (i) Members (Army, Navy, Air Force) to maintain research liaison between the Services and IDSA or (ii) Research Fellows under fellowship scheme to conduct research in areas of interest relevant to their respective parent organizations. The Serving officers attached to IDSA as members are normally in the rank of Brigadier/Colonel or equivalent and are posted by the individual Service Headquarters in consultation with IDSA. The officers who are granted research Fellowship will continue to draw their pay and allowances and other administrative entitlement including accommodation from their parent service/cadre.

(b) A total of 14 officers from the Armed Forces including one officer from the para-military *i.e.* Border Security Force are currently working at IDSA. As per the norms, a Service officer is granted a two year Fellowship extendable to four years. This however, does not apply to the Service members. Service officers have been appointed Director/Deputy Director at IDSA as approved by the President, IDSA. Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar joined the IDSA in 1989 as Member (Navy) and was appointed as Deputy Director in July 1996. Commodore Uday Bhaskar has been appointed as Officiating Director, IDSA since 1st August, 2004.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Denial of benefits to unit-run canteen employees

578. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court declared the unit-run canteen employees as Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the reasons for depriving them of benefits like, DA, HRA, Bonus and Gratuity etc.?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) It is a fact that the Supreme Court in its ruling delivered on 4.1.2001 held that the employees serving in unit-run-canteens could be treated as Government employees. However, the Supreme Court have further stated that this by itself would not entitle them to get all the service benefits, as is available to the regular Government servants or even their counterparts

serving in the Canteen Stores Department (CSD) and that the employer may frame separate conditions of service of the employees of unit-run-canteens. Accordingly, the service conditions of unit-run-canteens employees have been framed and issued on 28.4.2003.

Rules for posting of Army officers in MES on tenure basis

579. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exist no comprehensive rules for posting of Army officers in MES on tenure basis; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a also a fact that two civilian officers in MES in the scale of Rs. 22,400-24,500 are designated as Additional D.G. while an Army officer in the scale of Rs. 18,400-22,400 has been designated as Director General; if so, the reasons for such discrepancy; and

(c) to what extent recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission have been followed so far as the seniority as per pay scale is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. Army officers are posted to Military Engineer Service (MES) in accordance with provisions of Statutory Rules and Orders (SRO) 19E which provides that "The Military Engineer Services comprise of officers, Junior Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks of the Corps of Engineers and Civilian personnel".

(b) Yes, Sir. There does not exist any discrepancy. The posts of Director General Works, Additional Director General (Design and Consultancy) and Additional Director General (Ordnance Factories and Defence Research and Development Organisation) are all independent of each-other for functioning and reporting and are under the Engineer-in-Chief.

(c) Fifth Central Pay Commission has stated that "the senior most civilian officer who is Additional Director General, in the pay scale of Rs. 7,300-7,600 is reporting to the Director General who is military officer of the rank of Major General in the pay scale of Rs. 5,900-6,700". The Government removed the anomaly by issue of orders to the effect that senior most civilian officer in the pay scale of Rs. 7,300-7,600 would be designated as Director General (Personnel) and would report to the Engineer-in-Chief.